



**Arizona Department of Health Services
Office for Children with Special Health Care Needs
Integrated Services Grant**



**ISG-Committee Status Update
February 2007**

Committee Name: Health Benefits **Facilitator/Chair:** Cheryl Prescott/Wendy Benz

Priority Strategy(ies) and Status: For each Strategy the Committee is currently working on, identify the key actions completed or currently in process:

Objective 1.

- Assess adequacy of insurance coverage for children with special health care needs.
- The grantee was able to assist the State in improving access to adequate health insurance coverage by:
 - decreasing the number of CYSHCN without insurance.
 - increasing the number CYSHCN with access to insurance that meets their needs; and/or
 - improving the financing and reimbursement of services needed by CYSHCN.
- The grantee was able to assist the State in implementing activities statewide.

Actions underway and / or complete:

- Committee members are reviewing data sources and availability of surveys.
- Bill Johnson of AZ Health Query has been invited to speak next Month. .
- We are working on a definition of CYSHCN for the purposes of this committee.

Opportunities for integration:

- The insurance/benefit aspect covers all areas the solution lies in finding the gaps in the existing coverage.

Barriers identified:

- HIPPA and FERPA laws will limit the specificity of available data. We will only be able to get data in summary format.
- There are limitations to the extent that we can change private insurance carrier policy.
- It is difficult to identify the number of CYSHCN let alone the number of CYSHCN without adequate coverage.

Support needed:

Identification of AHCCCS reps to actively participate on committee.

Recommendations to the Task Force:

- None at this time